FBIS DAILY REPORT

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# DAILY REPORT

COMPLETED
ORIGINAL

COPY

# SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

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## ETHIOPIA

### ERITREAN REBELS SEIZE ETHIOPIAN BASE

TA251622Y Paris AFP in English 1558 GMT 25 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Khartoum, Jan 25 (AFP)--Eritrean rebels yesterday seized Dongollo, one of Ethiopia's biggest military bases equipped with sophisticated weaponry, the SUDAN NEWS AGENCY reported today.

It said forces of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) killed or took prisoner about 3,500 Ethiopian troops in the operation.

Dongollo, lying 55 kilometres (about 35 miles) south-east of the port of Massawa, supervised Ethiopian military operations in the Eritrean city of Ghinda which also fell to EPLF forces, the agency said.

Quoting reliable sources, the agency said the fall of Dongollo and Ghinda would lead to a significant shift in the balance of military operations in the areas.

It said EPLF forces now controlled a 70-kilometre (42 mile) stretch of the road linking Massawa to the Eritrean capital of Asmara. Fighting was continuing at Mubataklat, 36 kilometres (22 miles) from Asmara.

### INCREASED SOVIET, CUBAN INVOLVEMENT NOTED

PA251907Y Paris AFP in English 1816 GMT 25 Jan 78 PA

[Excerpts] Paris, Jan 25 (AFP)--A spokesman for the Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front (EPLF) said today it had documents from captured Ethiopian naval officers proving the involvement of Cuban and Soviet personnel in the fighting around the Eritrean port of Massawa. Spokesman Nafi Kurdi said here that two Soviet warships lying off Massawa were pounding EPLF positions. He added that the documents came from 25 Ethiopian naval officers who surrendered near the Red Sea port of Massawa besieged by the EPLF since last month. Ethiopian Government forces have since then tried to break through the stranglehold by massive air bombings and by ground and sea artillery pounding.

Government sources in Washington have said that Soviet amphibious ships, backed by frigates, recently passed through the Suez Canal and were reported in the Red Sea off the coast of Eritrea.

Western intelligence pointed to a massive increase of Soviet arms shipments and to the arrival, either from Cuba or Angola, of some 2,000 Cuban troops in Addis Ababa this month. Observers said this Soviet-Cuban aid was primarily aimed at bolstering Ethiopian troops battling Somali-backed insurgents in Ethiopia's southern Ogaden region.

But the EPLF stressed that part of the Soviet sophisticated weaponry such as T-54 tanks, MIG jets, armored vehicles, Stalin organs (rocket launchers), was also being used in Eritrea by Soviet and Cuban personnel involved in the fighting.

Ethiopian forces are still reported to be holding the encircled Eritrean capital city of Asmara and some outlying positions, the port of Assab--vital for the delivery of supplies--the eastern Eritrean town of Agordat and a few other positions.

SPOKESMAN CONDEMNS ARAB LEAGUE 'INTERFERENCE'

LD251530Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has expressed in Addis Ababa serious concern over the contents of an article which appeared in the 22d January 1978 issue of the English daily, the EGYPTIAN GAZETTE. According to the article entitled "Riyad Urges Arab Action," the secretary general of the Arab League, Mr Mahmud Riyad, has sent messages to Arab heads of state supporting Siad Barre's request for military assistance from members of the league. Referring to Arab League resolutions adopted last September supporting Somali aggression on Ethiopia, the paper also made public that Mr Riyad had asked the OAU secretary general to send him proposals for OAU-Arab League cooperation on the matter.

Expressing Ethiopia's readiness for peace as soon as the invading Somali forces are withdrawn from Ethiopian territory, the Foreign Ministry spokesman condemned the well-known propensity to interfere in African affairs on the part of some reactionary Arab regimes. He noted that the latest development to the use of the Arab League as instrument for interference in African affairs represented an alarming escalation which could have serious consequences for Africa if it remained unchallenged. It marked the institutionalization of interference by reactionary Arab regimes. Furthermore, the spokesman stressed the fact that it was tendentious and an insult to all Africans for the secretary general of the Arab League to give orders to the OAU to carry out the resolutions of the league which was directed at harming the interests of a founding member of the OAU, Ethiopia.

The spokesman emphasized that it is high time that Mr Riyad is told in no uncertain terms that the OAU is neither a secretariat nor an adjunct of the Arab League which Mr Riyad or his employers would manipulate at will. The spokesman added that Afro-Arab cooperation was never meant to create (?high rank) or (?subsystems), but to provide a cooperative framework between the two distinct regions--Arab and Africa--having two independent organizations, the OAU and the Arab League.

Outlining the devious strategy resorted to by fascist reactionary Arab regimes, the spokesman wondered why the secretary general of the Arab League did not advise some of his reactionary sponsors, who are bent on a reckless neocolonialist venture in Africa, to follow a policy of hands off black Africa if he is really interested in the peace and stability of Africa in general and the Horn of Africa in particular. The spokesman reiterated that in the face of expansionism of some reactionary Arab regimes, so symbolically manifested in Mr Riyad's statement, the survival of black Africans in Africa relies on the untiring vigilance on the part of the African governments and the militant attitude of the OAU in protecting its independence and Africans.

He concluded by asserting that the progressive and peace-loving Arab states and the broad masses of the Arab world will vehemently oppose maneuvers by some reactionary Arab regimes designed to (?mislead) the Arab League to destroy the spirit and letter of the declaration of Afro-Arab cooperation.

ENVOY REPORTS 'VERY SUCCESSFUL' TALKS IN PRAGUE

LD251605Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Excerpts] A high-level government delegation headed by Comrade Second Lt Gesesse Wolde Kidan, member of the standing committee of the Provisional Military Administrative Council in charge of economic affairs, returned to Addis Ababa yesterday after a week's working visit to Czechoslovakia.

The delegation was received at Bole International Airport by Comrade Tamerat Ferede, member of the PMAC standing committee in charge of public relations and information, and Col Dr Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, minister of foreign affairs.

Comrade Second Lieutenant Gesesse told reporters at the airport that the mission of the delegation was very successful and that the Ethiopian envoys met and exchanged views with senior government officials in the Czechoslovak capital.

The PMAC member also noted that the Czechoslovakian Government fully appreciate the magnitude of the problems created by the reactionary Somalia regime's current invasion of Ethiopian territory.

OFFICIAL CHARGES WESTERN OPPOSITION TO REVOLUTION

LD252115Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1800 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Summary] Maj Dawit Wolde Giorgis, permanent secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, today stated that the consequences of the Western countries' policy on the Horn of Africa affect not only the region but also world peace. Maj Dawit Wolde Giorgis said this at a press conference today at Bole International Airport on arrival in Addis Ababa at the end of his official visits to Britain, France and Canada after having attended the UN General Assembly.

In his statement, the permanent secretary said that he exchanged broad views with senior officials in these countries on matters related to their policy in the Horn of Africa. He made it clear that the United States, Britain and the FRG in particular are adopting a line which runs against the Ethiopian revolution and its existence, by directly and indirectly backing the invasion which the reactionary Somali Government has mounted against Ethiopia.

SOMALIA

MOGADISCIO COMMENTARY DISCUSSES COUNTERATTACK

LD251632Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Western Somalia Liberation Front has utterly defeated on the 22d of this month the attack waged by the collective forces of Abyssinia, Russia and Cuba and as a result of that, captured some Cuban mercenaries.

The world has been recently denouncing the naked intervention of the Russians of the affairs of the Horn. The secretly planned, wanton aggression of the Abyssinian, Russian, Cuban and other forces was something highly expected during the last week. These collective forces were aiming to distort the liberation front forces and detroy them in the first phase of their wars and secondly to penetrate into the SDR [Somali Democratic Republic] territory. In order to fulfill this objective, the secret visits by the ministers of defense of Russia and Cuba have been noted.

While fully relying on the commitment of the Russians and Cubans to supply huge armaments and sophisticated weapons to the Addis regime, Mengistu and his bunch of yes-men turned their backs to the peace initiative proposed recently by the five Western nations recently in Washington D.C.

In order to satisfy their aggressive motive, these forces waged an attack on Harar, Babile and Fayambiro. They used sophisticated arms, including war planes, mortars, rockets and modern tanks in these wars. The liberation front, with their iron spirit and high morale, decisively defeated utterly the enemy troops.

So far, these were the greatest engagements during the liberation struggle inside the territory.

The colonial troops and their [word indistinct] have launched their air attacks with more than 300 [as heard] F-5, MIG fighter-bomber planes. The Western Somalia liberation front forces not only defeated them but followed them to pierce their swords in the enemy bodies inside their original trenches. Although the Abyssinians fled from the battlefield, yet the liberation front forces followed them until a hand-to-hand fight with swords was experienced inside the main city streets of Harar.

This was different from all the previous ones because the Cubans and Russians wanted to exhibit their ability to their followers, but the result of this war had very much different repercussions in tactics and consequences--the front gained completely the upper hand.

The liberated areas were in festivities to celebrate the enemy defeat and the capturing of Cuban mercenaries.

It was many times that Radio Addis Ababa distorted the reality of the situation by denouncing openly the statements declared by the secretary-general of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party and president of the SDR, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, that Cubans and Russians are siding with the Abyssinians in their wars with the front and that their troops are fully engaged. But the truth of Challe Siad's statement had appeared with the capturing of Cuban soldiers by the Western Somalia Liberation Front forces recently. At least, Addis realizes at this stage that the WSLF, Abo and Eritrean forces are mighty and capable of capturing any foreign forces involved. The SDR fully shares these festivities with the fronts. This victory is not only for the fronts but for the sovereign African states that long and care much for peace and stability of the Horn.

The SDR congratulates these liberation fronts and encourages them to proceed with their struggle until complete victory is ensured.

SOMALI SPOKESMAN CRITICIZES OAU STATEMENT

LD252100Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1950 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Summary] A Somali Foreign Ministry spokesman has strongly criticized the OAU secretary general for condemning the recent statement by the Iranian Government that it would give its full support to Somalia if Somalia were invaded by foreign forces. This is the statement which the OAU admitted having released.

In a cable addressed to OAU Chairman Omar Bongo, the Somali Government asked if the OAU had the authority to release such a statement. The chairman reasoned in reply that the statement had been misinterpreted or misunderstood. However, the Somali Government spokesman said that the original official statement was not very different from the version released by Radio Moscow and in Addis Ababa.

The Somali Democratic Republic has already warned the OAU and the world at large against the joint conspiracy by Russia, Cuba and Abyssinia to invade Somalia and capture parts of it. The seven air raids which have been made on important and strategic towns in Somalia are a clear prelude to impending invasion by the Russians, Cubans and Abyssinians.

The current massive air and ground offensive against the liberation movements is meant not only to annihilate the liberation movement but to clear the way for the invasion of Somalia. It is this conspiracy which prompted Iran and other peace-loving countries to oppose this aggression. The spokesman emphasized that it is the right of all groups which are concerned about the existence, unity and the independence of all Somali people to express their support.

The spokesman said that when OAU Secretary General Eteki singled out Iran, he was blinding himself to the intentions of Russia, Cuba and other eastern countries to colonize the peoples of East Africa. This omission, he said, creates great suspicion as to the motives involved in releasing the statement. The spokesman added that the OAU's indifference to the massive imports of sophisticated weapons into Abyssinia by the Russians and the inflow of Cuban personnel is to trample the facts of the situation.

## UGANDA

### AMIN CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY OF MILITARY POWER

LD251225Y Kampala Domestic Service in English 0854 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Speech to the Ugandan nation by President Amin in Koboko to celebrate the seventh anniversary of the military administration--live]

[Excerpts] Unity and the freedom of worship in all religions in Uganda is very important. As I was very proud and very happy on Friday for the Moslems, on Sunday for the Christians, all churches and mosques was full to capacity. You the people of Uganda, we should not hate one another, we should not listen to a small people who are in the pockets of the imperialists.

(?Those) few exiles who run and try to distort the situation in Uganda, who try to make also misunderstanding between Uganda and our neighbors, I will never accept that. Those exiles are the criminals when they left Uganda. They stole a lot of money. Even we should know that this people were crying [word indistinct] all over Uganda when the Minister Kyemba was the minister. And that (?actually) he had planned with the imperialists whom he owed money he didn't give them [words indistinct] to the government. Ard as he left, the situation was very difficult.

But the British, the Americans, the other Western group did not understand the situation in Uganda. The situation in Uganda is completely different: We are not against the Americans. We are not against any international community.

Our stand in international community, international politics, on the Middle East, we stand firm and seek the total liberation of Palestine and the return by the Zionist Israel of the illegally-occupied Arab land. [Passage indistinct] in the southern part of Africa, Rhodesia, Namibia. [applause] If they cannot give freedom to the oppressed people of Namibia, of Azania and South Africa, to Rhodesia, there is no other solution except only force of arms, and we are ready to contribute. [applause]

On behalf of the Ugandan masses and the liberation movements in Africa, I would like very very sincerely to thank very much the whole socialist countries who have been helping the entire Africa--the poor people who are being (?usurped) by the Zionists in the Middle East and by the racist regimes in southern Africa.

This includes Soviet Union, China, who must continue, and [word indistinct] Yugoslavia and the other countries who support the African masses. Because the other Western powers, they are arming the South Africans. They are arming the Rhodesians. They are arming the Zionist Israel. Therefore we may have no other alternative of getting arms to support him except we will have get the arms from friendly people and friendly countries who can help you.

I would like to assure the entire world community we shall be very, very happy. We shall be very pleased with you and I want to assure you whatever it has been said (?so-called) human rights, this does not exist. If you had come here today how many people you have (?found) say: It is wrong completely and you will never succeed. You will never win for your campaign against us. As long we are strong in our industry, in our agriculture, you will never succeed. Uganda is as good whether you take us to United Nations, but if the country does not work very hard [passage indistinct]. I thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen.

AMIN INVITES NEWS AGENCIES TO REOPEN OFFICES

LD251832Y Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Summary] Addressing an international news conference in Koboko, President Amin announced that the international news organizations were now free to establish their offices in Kampala. "Al-Hajj Amin particularly stressed to the foreign journalists who were present at the ceremony marking the seventh anniversary of military administration in Uganda not to write distorted stories about Uganda without cross-checking their stories. He said instead they should physically come to Uganda so as to establish for themselves the truth about Uganda."

"He denied the alleged nonexistence of human rights in Uganda by the Western mass media. Al-Hajj Amin said the people of Uganda are happy and live in peace. He said that not a single person is found brutally killed as is the case in Northern Ireland [words indistinct].

"Life-President Amin has told the news conference in Koboko that any international press is now free to establish their offices in Kampala. He stressed that if they have their offices in Kampala, this would enable them to transmit correctly the happenings in Uganda to their newspapers and magazines and their countries at large instead of depending on unfounded stories from Ugandan exiles.

"He made it clear that no exiles, whether British or American, will ever speak good of their countries and they should not take the stories of Ugandan exiles to be correct information. (?That is why), he said, he had decided to lift the ban on overseas newspapers and let them establish their offices in Kampala."

KENYAN DELEGATION TO CELEBRATION RETURNS HOME

LD252110Y Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Summary] Mr Peter Kenyatta, who led the Kenyan delegation to the celebration marking the seventh anniversary of the military administration, has bid farewell to President Amin at Koboko. "He thanked President Amin and the people of Uganda for according him and his delegation true hospitality. The Ugandan leader asked Mr Peter Kenyatta to convey his fraternal greetings to President Mzee Jomo Kenyatta of Kenya, the government and the entire people of Kenya. He wished Mr Kenyatta and his delegation a safe journey home."

## NIGER

### LIBYA'S AL-QADHDHAFI ENDS VISIT, RETURNS HOME

PA251402Y Paris AFP in English 1222 GMT 25 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Niamey, Jan 25 (AFP)--Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi left here early today for Tripoli, aboard his personal aircraft after his official visit to Niger which started on Sunday.

Yesterday, Col. al-Qadhdhafi spent the day with Niger Head of State Seyne Kountche in the Tapoa National Reserve, about 150 kms (94 miles) south of here. The Libyan leader shot an antilope, a buffalo and a water buck in the reserve.

### Communique Issued

For the text of the joint communique issued on the occasion of Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's visit to Niger as reported by Tripoli radio see the Libya section of the Middle East & North Africa DAILY REPORT for 26 January.

## NIGERIA

### LAGOS DENIES ATTACK ON SOVIET SHIP NEAR COAST

LD251918Y Lagos International Service in English 1830 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The federal government has refuted a publication in the TIME magazine of the 23d of this month which alleged that an unnamed Soviet ship was attacked in Nigeria's territorial waters last month. In a statement issued in Lagos today, the Ministry of Transport described the publication as a complete fabrication. It assured the shipping community that the federal government is fully alive to its responsibility to international shipping. The statement pointed out there was an effective coastal patrol system which insured the security of vessels in Nigerian waters [words indistinct].

ANGOLA

DECREE ORDERS CLOSING OF CATHOLIC RADIO STATION

LD251415Y Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] We are going to read Decree No. 5/78 from the presidency of the republic:

Point one:

Article Seven of the Constitution states: The People's Republic of Angola is a secular state, there being complete separation between the state and religious institutions. All religions will be respected and the state will give protection to the churches, places and objects of the cult, provided the churches respect the laws of the state.

This notwithstanding, point eight of the first part of the Third MPLA Plenum's resolution on the basis of relations between the MPLA and the state and on the restructuring of the state apparatus states:

In view of the strictly party character of the culture, propaganda and orientation of the MPLA, of the speeches of its leaders and of the tasks of the revolution, the orientation and control of the mass media, hitherto within the purview of the Ministry of Information, will henceforth be the responsibility of the information and propaganda apparatus of the MPLA Central Committee.

From the (?provisions cited above, it clearly emerges) that the existence and maintenance of private radio stations in the service of a (?church) is untenable. In our country, in accordance with the constitution and the resolutions of the MPLA Central Committee, our party should hold a monopoly on information.

Point two:

The Emissora Catolica de Angola, Radio Ecclesia, was set up in line with the concordat between Portugal and the Catholic Church. This is an agreement which is in no way (?binding on) the People's Republic of Angola, since its provisions run counter to the above-quoted Article Seven of the Constitution.

Since this broadcasting station continued to function under the concordat, it has become necessary to integrate it into the information and propaganda apparatus of the MPLA-Labor Party in order to implement the Central Committee's decisions. This is done out of respect for the principle of the equality of all religions, and thus places one more unit of social communication at the service of the revolution.

In this regard under Article 42 of the Constitution and with the power vested in it under part A of Article 32 of same, the government decrees [word indistinct] the following:

Article One: Nationalization

1. The Emissora Catolica de Angola is dissolved and all its assets and liabilities are nationalized;

2. Said assets will be taken over by Radio Nacional de Angola.

Article Two: Staff

1. The technical staff currently working for Emissora Catolica (?should) [word indistinct] their posts until they receive alternative instructions from the management of Radio Nacional.

2. The management body of Emissora Catolica de Angola (?ceases) its functions with immediate effect.

Article Three: Advertising

All advertising contracts between the Emissora Catolica and private firms are [words indistinct].

Article Four: Interpretation and Integration of (?Emissions)

Questions on the application of this decree will be resolved by the Ministry of Finance.

Article Five: [word indistinct]

This decree is with immediate effect.

The presidency of the People's Republic in Luanda, 25 January 1978.

[signed] The President of the Republic, Antonio Agostinho Neto

FRELIMO DELEGATION ARRIVES IN LUANDA FOR VISIT

LD251615Y Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0600 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Summary] A FRELIMO delegation led by Central Committee member Jacinto Pinto arrived in Luanda last night with a message from President Machel for President Neto. The delegation was met on arrival by Foreign Minister Paulo Jorge.

## MOZAMBIQUE

HUNGARIAN MINISTER BEGINS TALKS WITH CHISSANO

LD251200Y Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Summary] The visiting Hungarian foreign minister, Frigyes Puja, opened talks with his Mozambique counterpart, Joaquim Chissano, in Maputo this morning. He also laid a wreath at the monument to Mozambique's fallen heroes. "Last night the Hungarian foreign minister was feted at a dinner given by Foreign Minister Chissano. In their speeches the two diplomats spoke of the importance of their meeting, the friendly ties binding the two peoples and the international situation."

MAPUTO REPORTS 45 RHODESIAN SOLDIERS KILLED

LD251910Y Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] A communique issued in Maputo today by the Patriotic Front states that the nationalists attacked the Rhodesian military base of Nyamaropa on the 7th of this month.

According to the communique the attack lasted 2 hours; 15 of the 45 Smith soldiers stationed there were killed and others seriously wounded. The buildings of the military base were extensively damaged and tents housing newly arrived soldiers completely destroyed. The Zimbabwe People's Army communique notes that one armored car was also destroyed, and that shortly before the attack two bridges, one over the Marozi River and another over the Nyawamba, were destroyed.

CUBAN FOREIGN TRADE DELEGATION ARRIVES IN MAPUTO

LD252150Y Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] A delegation of the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Trade arrived in Maputo yesterday. The delegation is led by (Ramoron), the director of the trade policy department. The delegation was met on arrival by Almeida Santos, the head of our country's foreign trade directorate. Speaking to the press, the leader of the Cuban delegation said the visit is aimed at strengthening the cooperation and friendly ties binding the two countries.

MAPUTO REPORTS HUNGER AFFLICTS SOME DISTRICTS

LD252122Y Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Summary] The Cabo Delgado Province People's Assembly began its second session in Pemba today, with Provincial Governor Raimundo Pechinuapa in the chair. "The first point to be debated was the problem of hunger. According to speeches by some deputies, in some districts hunger has taken on enormous proportions. In order to alleviate this situation, a resolution was approved mandating the people's shops firm and (Dineca) to buy up surplus production in some districts and take it to the places most affected by the hunger."

## RHODESIA

SMITH RULES OUT 'IMMINENT AGREEMENT' IN TALKS

PA251623Y Paris AFP in English 1558 GMT 25 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Salisbury, Jan 25 (AFP)--Premier Ian Smith today ruled out any imminent agreement in his settlement talks with Rhodesian-based nationalist leaders. Mr Smith told a press conference that he would have liked to have reached an agreement before the Malta talks between Britain, the U.S. and exiled guerrilla leaders Robert Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo, scheduled for next week. But there were important aspects to be considered in reaching the internal settlement, Mr Smith said.

Reports earlier today and last night said Mr Smith and the Salisbury-based leaders, Abel Muzorewa, Ndabaningi Sithole and Chief Jeremiah Chirau, were on the point of announcing an accord.

JOHANNESBURG REPORTS LATEST RHODESIAN CASUALTIES

LD260620Y Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 26 Jan 78 LD

[Text] A military communique issued in Salisbury says that 25 more people have been killed in Rhodesia's terrorist war. One terrorist collaborator and 11 terrorists have been killed by the security forces, and 13 tribesmen have died as a result of terrorist actions.

SOUTH AFRICA

JOHANNESBURG REPORTS VORSTER CABINET RESHUFFLE

LD261200Y Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 26 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The South African prime minister, Mr John Vorster, has announced a number of changes in his cabinet, the most important of which being the appointment of a new minister to handle the development of the country's black people. The present minister of information and of the interior, Dr Connie Mulder, is to become minister of Bantu administration and development. He will be taking the place of Mr M.C. Botha, who is retiring. Dr Mulder will retain the information portfolio.

In announcing the cabinet reshuffle, Mr Vorster said that, as in the past, Bantu education would be a separate portfolio and would now be the responsibility of Mr A. Cruywagen, at present deputy minister of Bantu affairs. Both departments are to be renamed.

Mr Vorster said that the splitting of the departments formerly handled by Mr M.C. Botha and the appointment of Mr Cruywagen, to head what will probably be called the Department of Education and Training, would make it possible for more attention to be given to the training of South African blacks, which was to be adapted and improved. There will also be a new deputy minister of Bantu affairs, Dr (Willens Postu).

Cabinet List Cited

PA252359Y Paris AFP in English 2341 GMT 25 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Cape Town, Jan 25 (AFP)--Here is the full list of the new South African cabinet:

| | |
|---|---|
| Prime minister | John Vorster |
| Defence | P.W. Botha |
| Transport | S.L. Muller |
| Labour and mines | S.P. Botha |
| Finance | O.P. Horwood |
| Economic affairs | J.C. Heunis |
| Immigration, public works and interior | A.L. Schlebusch |
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JOHANNESBURG COMMENTS ON SOVIET THREAT IN AFRICA

LD251158Y Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The increasing strength of Cuban military forces in Angola, controlled to a very large extent by Soviet Russia, has assumed such alarming proportions that other African countries should begin expressing their concern in a public and not merely in private. They should remember the words of President Kaunda of Zambia at the time of the Angola war when he referred to Soviet Russia as the marauding tiger and Cuba as her cubs, hellbent on destroying Africa.

It is true, as President Neto of Angola has said in Nigeria, that the MPLA movement would not have been able to gain control over Angola without the help of strong contingents of military forces of foreign countries: the Soviet Union, Cuba, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea-Conakry, Mozambique and Nigeria. But above all, Soviet Russia and Cuba are providing weaponry and men--the men of course from Cuba. This has happened at a terrible price for Angola and for Africa.

A similar story is now unfolding in the Horn of Africa. The news of Soviet and, to a smaller extent this time, Cuban involvement is alarming. The probabilities are becoming stronger that the Soviets intend using Ethiopia as a springboard for much wider imperialist action.

The Marxist-Leninist Ethiopia created by Colonel Mengistu and his military government has got the full backing of Soviet Russia for the Soviets' strategic and imperialistic ends. Initially, while feeling around engaging possibilities, Soviet strategists got involved in a position where Russia supported both Ethiopia and Somalia. But riding both these horses got a bit much and the Russians made their choice. Their ambassador in Somalia declared: If the USSR had to choose between the 3 million Somalis and the 30 million Ethiopians, it would choose Ethiopia.

Their object now is to make themselves indispensable to the Mengistu regime, just as they have made themselves indispensable to the Angola of President Neto. African leaders will soon have to decide whether it is going to be Africa for the Africans or Africa for the Soviets. And the choice is simple: Has Soviet imperialism in Africa led to peace and prosperity?

JOHANNESBURG DENIES HOSTILITY TO U.S. NEGOTIATOR

LD251852Y Johannesburg International Service in English 1600 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The intrigue and plotting which has now become part of the run up to the proposed renewed negotiations on South-West Africa between the Big Five Western powers and South Africa in New York next month could be regarded as ridiculous were it not for the fact that the issues involved are so grave. Earlier this week we mentioned that there was a Western negotiating technique to set up a hurdle and once that had been passed to put up another notch each time, and that the people who are confronted with the ever more difficult obstacle are the South African Government and the peoples of South-West Africa.

The latest tactic has been to allege that South Africa is waging a campaign against the West's chief negotiator, Mr Donald McHenry, and needless to say Mr McHenry is regarded as the ideal subject because he is an American Negro. So the suggestion is left that South Africa is objecting to negotiating with a black man.

To those promoting this vindictive campaign, the South African Government can point out that it is more accustomed to negotiating with black people than with white. It has been through negotiation and cooperation with black leaders that two black homelands in South Africa have become independent and are now coexisting fruitfully and peacefully with this country. But this aside, as South Africa's foreign minister, Mr R.F. Botha, has pointed out, this country is not so naive as to suppose that Mr McHenry dictates policy on South-West Africa. Policy is set out by the governments concerned and Mr McHenry is but one of five negotiators conveying their government's thinking to the South African Government representatives. If things are not going well, therefore, South Africa could hardly regard this as the fault of Mr McHenry.

Nevertheless, it is to be welcomed that serious consideration is now being given to top level discussions involving the foreign ministers of the West and South Africa. The four rounds of discussions held last year with the ambassador were valuable, and in fact there are only a few outstanding points of disagreement which have to be settled. However, it is these points which could result in deadlock and before such a stage is reached it is necessary for top government officials to get together and see what can be done to avoid a stalemate. The future of (?that country) depends on sensible negotiations and procedures, and this latest tactic of trying to discredit South Africa by alleging that she objects to Mr McHenry is a shoddy tactic which should have no place in present developments.

NAMIBIA FRONT DEMANDS INCLUSION IN WESTERN TALKS

LD251848Y Johannesburg International Service in English 1600 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD

[Text] An umbrella organization in South-West Africa, the Namibia National Front [NNF], says it will be a miscarriage of democracy and justice if it is not invited to attend the planned talks on South-West Africa between South Africa and the five Western members of the Security Council. The statement, released in Windhoek, says the front respectfully rejected the argument of the Western powers that the talks would mainly deal with the proposed ceasefire between the SWAPO terrorists and the South African security forces. None of the parties which have been invited to take part in the talks so far was in a position to take over [as heard] the front's line of thought and it was logical that the NNF could not recognize decisions taken without its direct participation.

ZAMBIA

LUSAKA: NKOMO WILLING TO ACCEPT CEASE-FIRE

PA251516Y Paris AFP in English 1456 GMT 25 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Lusaka, Jan 25 (AFP)--Joshua Nkomo, co-leader of the Rhodesian Nationalist Patriotic Front, said today the front would accept a ceasefire in the Rhodesian guerrilla war if independence was absolutely guaranteed and under front responsibility. "The Patriotic Front liberation forces must provide that guarantee," he said.

Mr Nkomo told newsmen that he and front co-leader Robert Mugabe were going to the Malta talks on Rhodesia at the invitation of British Foreign Secretary David Owen "to get clarification as to what direction the British have taken." He said clarification was necessary in view of Britain's "hesitation in respect of their own proposals."

The black nationalist leader said the front, which is waging a fierce guerrilla war against white-ruled Rhodesia, would accept negotiations for a settlement "if the British satisfy us that they want genuine negotiations."

Mr Nkomo said the Anglo-American proposals still stood as a basis for negotiations and the front had its own counterproposals to the settlement "which can only be revealed when the British are prepared." Mr Nkomo said the Americans would act only as advisers to the British Government in the talks.

Mr Nkomo denied he had recruited Cuban and Soviet military experts for training his guerrillas, but agreed the Soviet Union and other socialist countries were supplying the front with arms. He had sought weapons from Western countries but they had refused to supply them. He said if they supplied these weapons to the front now, they would be accepted in the intensification of the armed struggle.

KAUNDA STRESSES NONRACIAL POLICY FOR ZIMBABWE

PA251546Y Paris AFP in English 1515 GMT 25 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Lusaka, Jan 25 (AFP)--Zambia will not support the Patriotic Front Rhodesian nationalist movement if it does not adopt a non-racial policy after attaining independence, President Kenneth Kaunda has said.

The Zambian leader, speaking last night at Nchanga, a mining town on the copperbelt north of here, told party leaders, councillors, trade unionists, businessmen and heads of parastatal organisations, that he had warned the co-leaders of the front, Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe, that Zambia would not support them if they adopted racialist policies in an independent Zimbabwe.

He said: Both whites and blacks must live peacefully together in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) despite the terrible war that is raging on there now. When all is over, they must live as one people, regardless of their colour.

President Kaunda said independent Rhodesia should take a leaf from Zambia's book where non-racial policies have succeeded and people of different races all live together in peace and harmony and as members of one family.

President Kaunda is on a five-day tour of the copperbelt.

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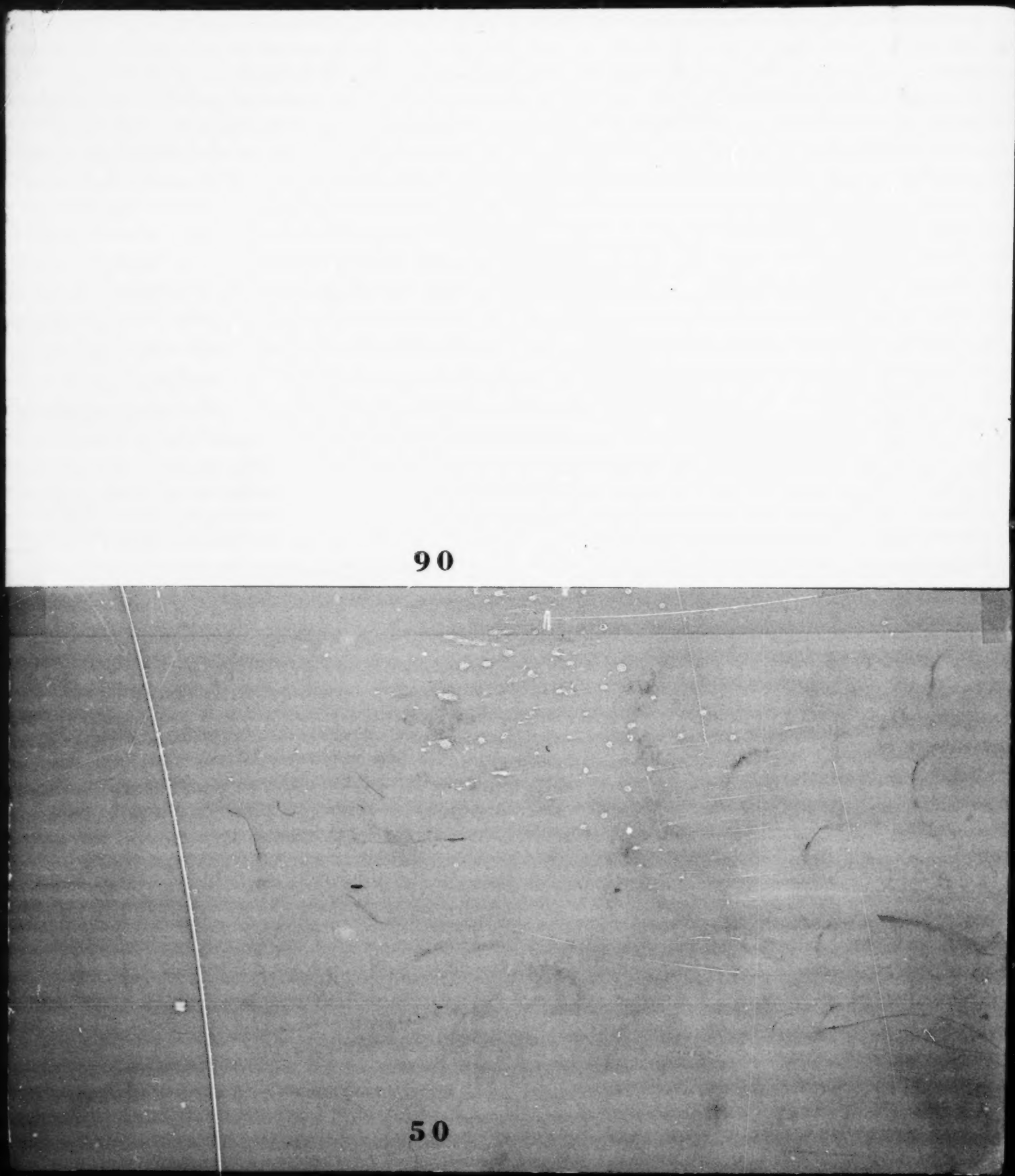
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